



# California Regional Water Quality Control Board

## San Francisco Bay Region



Linda S. Adams  
Secretary for  
Environmental Protection

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Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor

March 5, 2008

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS**  
**NOTICE OF FILING OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT**  
to amend the  
Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay Basin

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board) will consider an amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay Basin (Basin Plan) during public hearings on May 14 and July 9, 2008. Specifically, the Water Board will consider:

**Amending Mercury Water Quality Objectives in waters of the  
Guadalupe River watershed  
and  
Incorporating a total maximum daily load (TMDL) and implementation plan  
to reduce mercury in waters of the Guadalupe River watershed**

Action on the proposed amendment will be taken in accordance with a regulatory program certified under Section 21080.5 of the Public Resources Code as exempt from the requirement to prepare an environmental impact report under the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code Section 2100 et seq.) and with other applicable laws and regulations.

The Water Board will hold two public hearings on the proposed Basin Plan amendment:

- DATES:** May 14, 2008  
July 9, 2008
- TIME:** 9:00 a.m. (approximate)
- LOCATION:** Elihu M. Harris State Building  
First Floor Auditorium  
1515 Clay Street  
Oakland, CA 94612
- STAFF CONTACT:** Carrie Austin  
San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board  
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Oakland, CA 94612  
510.622.1015 (ph.)  
510.622.2460 (fax)  
[caustin@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:caustin@waterboards.ca.gov)
- MATERIALS:** The proposed Basin Plan amendment and supporting staff report will be available for review and downloading online, on March 5, 2008 at  
<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/TMDL/guadalupevermercurytml.htm>  
Paper copies are also available by contacting Carrie Austin by phone or email as listed above.

**The 45-day public comment period for the proposed amendment expires at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 21, 2008.** All written comments on the proposed amendment are due by this date to the staff contact identified above. Additionally, all evidence, testimony, and exhibits to be offered at the May hearing must be submitted in writing by this date to the above staff contact. Non-evidentiary policy statements to be made at the May hearing need not be submitted in advance.

The Water Board will receive oral public testimony on the proposed amendment at the May hearing. At the conclusion of the May hearing, in response to written comments and testimony received, the Water Board may recommend that staff make changes to the proposed amendment to be presented for its consideration at the second hearing, in July.

The Water Board will not take action on the proposed amendment until the July hearing.

Prior to the July hearing, Water Board staff will release any proposed changes to the proposed Basin Plan amendment and/or accompanying staff report, along with written responses to all comments received during the public comment period and at the May hearing. Oral public testimony at the July hearing will be limited to comments on changes to the Basin Plan amendment the Water Board or its staff may propose subsequent to the March 5, 2008 version. At the conclusion of the July hearing, the Water Board will consider adoption of the proposed Basin Plan amendment, including changes to the proposed amendment that are consistent with the general purpose of the proposed amendment and are a logical outgrowth of the evidence and testimony received.

The public hearings will be conducted in accordance with 23 Cal. Code of Regs. §649.3. Time limits may be imposed on oral testimony at the public hearings; groups are encouraged to designate a spokesperson. All exhibits presented at the hearing, including charts, graphs, and other testimony must be left with the Water Board. They will become part of the administrative record.

A map and directions to the hearing are available online at [www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/direction.htm](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/direction.htm). The location of the hearings is accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals who require special accommodations are requested to contact Executive Assistant Mary Tryon, (510) 622 2399, [mtryon@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:mtryon@waterboards.ca.gov), at least five (5) working days before a meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

Bruce H. Wolfe  
Executive Officer